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NEWBURN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

(County of Northumberland)

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year 1959



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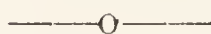
AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year 1959

HEALTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1959/60.



Chairman :

Councillor JOSEPH WILLIAM LEA

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. EVELYN WATSON

Councillor CHARLES ANDREW WOODS

„ JOHN CROSTHWAITE PATTERSON, J.P.

„ THOMAS ROBERTSON

„ DAVID HODSON

„ Mrs. PEGGY WADDINGTON

„ JOSEPH WILLIAM BAIN

„ EDWIN STEPHENS

„ WILLIAM HENRY FERENS SHACKLETON

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Telephone : Lemington 674112/3

Council Offices,
Newburn,
Newcastle upon Tyne, 5.

Medical Officer of Health :

MADGE HOPPER, M.B., B.S., B.H.Y., D.P.H.,

South Area Health Office,

Newburn Road,

Throckley, Newcastle upon Tyne, 5.

Telephone : Lemington, 674365.

Acting Medical Officer of Health :

T. J. W. ROBSON, M.B., B.S.

Senior Public Health Inspector :

JOHN CORNEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

CHARLES RAND, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Appointed June, 1959)

Pupil Public Health Inspector :

GEORGE GRAHAM

Clerk :

Miss J. GREENWOOD

(Resigned December 1959)

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Newburn :

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting the Annual Report to you.

The population of the Urban District which has risen by 4,640 during the last five years rose to 27,330 an increase of 480 on the previous year ; this was smaller than in some previous years.

Little significant change took place in the basic vital statistics of the district. The death rate remained steady and the birth rate rose slightly.

The infant mortality rate of 41.8 per 1,000 live births was the highest recorded in the district since 1954, when it was 46.8. This was well above the national rate of 22 per 1,000 live births in 1959. The increase was entirely in the neo-natal deaths, the number of deaths between one month and one year of life remaining at five, as in the previous year. There was a slight increase in the number of infant deaths from infective causes which is fortunately becoming more rare. Although a lot has been achieved in ante-natal and child care, much still remains to be done.

The individual causes of death showed a slight increase in those due to heart and circulatory diseases and in those due to malignant neoplasm of the stomach and also of the abdominal organs. A graph has been compiled showing the marked difference in the number of male and female deaths from lung cancer and bronchitis in the last ten years. 1955 produced the highest peak on the graph for male deaths from lung cancer and the highest number of male deaths from bronchitis occurred in 1956.

In 1956, deaths from respiratory diseases were at the high figure of 42, fortunately this decreased to 26 in 1959. Deaths from pneumonia decreased by three and those from bronchitis by six, compared with the number of deaths from these causes in 1958.

Another graph shows the amount of atmospheric pollution of the district in the five years commencing in 1955, which was the first year when complete figures from the four deposit gauges were available. The graph is drawn from averages of the four gauges, these were high in 1955, 1956 and 1958 being 16.0, 17.48 and 17 tons of deposit per square mile per month respectively.

Unfortunately, deaths from accidents other than those caused by motor vehicles rose sharply to eleven from six the previous year, due to an increase in accidents at work. The number of accidents at home remained similar in both years. Continued education

and publicity in regard to accidents in general and especially in the home and to the elderly and very young remain an urgent necessity.

Deaths from suicide also increased after a very welcome decline last year.

One of the highlights of the year was the decrease in mortality and incidence of tuberculosis. No death from this cause was registered compared with four in the previous year. The incidence of the disease dropped to less than half that of 1958 and 1957. The intensive efforts of recent years in attacking tuberculosis certainly seem to be having their effect. It will be interesting to see if the special survey envisaged to take place early in 1960, consisting of a house to house canvas in the village of Newburn will increase the attendance at the mass radiography unit.

The total number of notifications of infectious disease rose to 753 from 104, in 1958. The large increase was in the incidence of measles, 627 cases being notified, compared with only seven in the previous year. The outbreak commenced in the eastern part of the district and spread to the west.

There was a slight rise in the incidence of whooping cough, very little in that of scarlet fever and a welcome decrease in that of sonne dysentery. No case of food poisoning or poliomyelitis was notified. Influenza and colds were prevalent during the first part of the year and there was an increase in the number of cases of primary pneumonia.

Progress in re-housing from slum clearance property continued throughout the year.

Owing to the lack of an additional Public Health Inspector for part of the year and the subsequent illness of Mr. Corney, visits to food premises were much fewer than usual. Towards the autumn, the staff returned to full strength and it is hoped to increase the visiting of food shops to the normal level.

Interest continued to be focused on the Smoke Control Area programme covering five years and a decision in principle of the first, to be designated Newburn No. 1. (Throckley) Smoke Control Area, was approved by the Minister.

The decrease in the deposit of smoke and of sulphur dioxide shown in 1959, compared with that of 1958, is in the right direction.

Numerous visits were paid by the staff of the Health Department to several elderly men who were in need of care and attention. Every effort is made to keep these old people at home and it is only

as a last resort that formal action is taken. In one case this was necessary and had good results.

The other activities of the Health Department continued steadily during the year and emphasis was placed on health education with particular regard to tuberculosis, accidents in the home and food hygiene.

May I express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their continued interest and encouragement in the work of the department, to Mr. Corney, Senior Public Health Inspector for his sustained high standard of work, to Mr. Rand the new inspector and to the staff of the Health Department and to the Clerk and other officials of the Council for their ready co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

M. HOPPER,

Medical Officer of Health.

I.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population :

Again a slight increase of the population occurred in 1959 to a total of 27,330 at the Registrar General's mid-year estimate from 26,850. During the last five years an increase has taken place steadily year by year, mainly to due the re-housing of the overspill population from the City of Newcastle upon Tyne. The increase in population during these five years now amounts to 4,640.

Births :

The total number of births registered during the year was 502 compared with 495 in 1958, giving a birth rate (corrected for age and sex distribution) of 16.7 per 1,000 population. For England and Wales the birth rate was 16.5. The birth rate for the district has remained steady for the last six years. The number of births has of course shown an increase with the rise in population. The number of illegitimate births in the year was seven whereas in 1958 there were ten.

Unfortunately, the number of still births rose to an unusually high figure, a total of sixteen, of which three were illegitimate. In the previous year seven still births were registered, in 1957 there were twelve. The still birth rate was 30.9 per 1,000 live and still births compared with the national rate of 20.7.

Deaths :

The number of deaths registered rose to 320, of which twenty-five occurred at the Lemington Hospital, leaving a total number of 295 as the deaths of residents of the district. In the previous year 290 deaths were registered, 32 of them occurred in the Lemington Hospital, a total of deaths of residents being 258. The death rate in the Urban District therefore increased to 15.5 per 1,000 population after correction for age and sex distribution, compared with a rate of 11.6 for England and Wales in 1959 and of 13.4 for this district in 1958.

Natural Increase of Population :

The natural increase of population (number of births in excess of deaths) which has been rising steadily for the last few years, showed a slight decrease to 182 compared with 205 for 1958 and 187 for 1957.

Infant Mortality:

Twenty one deaths under one year of age were registered, compared with eighteen in the previous year and eleven in 1957. The infant mortality rate for the district was 41.8 per 1,000 live births compared with 36.3 for the previous year. For England and Wales the infant mortality rate in 1959 was 22.0. The infant mortality rate for this district is the highest recorded since 1954, when it was 46.8.

The increase in infant mortality was almost entirely due to a rise of three in the neo-natal deaths. A total of no less than sixteen infants died in the first month of life, compared with thirteen in the previous year. Thirteen of the sixteen neo-natal deaths in 1959 occurred in the first week of life. Six of the neo-natal deaths had prematurity as a primary or contributory cause, three were due to difficulties at birth, four to congenital abnormalities, one to haemolytic disease of the new born, one baby was found dead in a left luggage office, and one death was due to an infective cause.

Of the deaths between one month and one year of age, two had congenital defects as the primary or contributory cause. Nowadays it is becoming more rare to have deaths of infants from infective causes, but there was one death from bronchitis and one from gastro enteritis and also one from asphyxia due to inhalation of vomit due to acute bronchitis. The trend, particularly in the last ten years has been of a progressively lowering infant mortality with occasional remissions.

The figure for the district this year demonstrates there is no cause for complacency but for continued vigilance in the various fields of maternal and child welfare work, particularly in ante-natal care and midwifery. The antibiotic drugs have played a very great part in practically eliminating infection as a cause of infant death, but there is still a nucleus of congenital defects of various types to be overcome, a complex matter.

Maternal Mortality :

No death was registered attributable to pregnancy or child birth. In the previous year one such death was registered. The maternal mortality rate for the country was 0.38 per 1,000 live births.

Individual Causes of Death :

Deaths classified in the grouping of ' Heart and Circulatory Diseases ' increased to 111 from 93 in 1958 and 95 in 1957. Deaths

from ' Vascular diseases of the Nervous System ' decreased slightly to 61, from 66 in the previous year. Twelve of these occurred in the Lemington Hospital.

There was an increase in the total number of deaths from ' Malignant Disease ' to 59 from 45 in 1958, 42 in 1957 and 56 in 1956. The number of deaths from ' Malignant Neoplasm of the Stomach ' rose considerably to eleven from six in 1958. Deaths from ' Malignant Neoplasm of the Lung and Bronchus ' rose by two to eleven in 1959, from nine in 1958. The largest increase was in the number of deaths from ' Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ' which rose by seven to twenty eight in 1959 from twenty one in the previous year. There was little significant change in the other classified groups of deaths from malignant disease.

Of the eleven deaths from ' Malignant Neoplasm of the Lung and Bronchus,' ten were of bronchogenic carcinoma and one of carcinoma of the lung. All eleven deaths were of males, five being miners, four factory engineers, one a road foreman and one a shop keeper. According to the information available, two were heavy and two fairly heavy cigarette smokers, and another had given up smoking ten years ago. A graph has been compiled on page 21 illustrating the rise in male deaths compared with female deaths in the last ten years.

It is interesting to note that there was a welcome decrease in deaths due to respiratory diseases generally to a total of 26, from 33 in 1958, 21 in 1957 and 42 in 1956, the figure for 1956 being an unusually high one.

Deaths from pneumonia decreased from fourteen in 1958 to eleven in 1959 and deaths from bronchitis from seventeen in 1958 to eleven in 1959. The most significant decrease was six in the number of male deaths from this cause. The graph on page 21 shows the lower number of female deaths from bronchitis since 1946, the sharp rise in male deaths in 1956 and the gradual decline to the figures of 1959.

No death from influenza was registered, compared with five in the previous year.

Deaths from diabetes numbered four in 1959, five being registered in 1958. No death from leukaemia occurred during the year.

Three deaths from motor vehicle accidents were registered, there were four deaths in both 1958 and 1957. Two of these accidents occurred to elderly men of over eighty years.

Unfortunately, deaths from all other accidents rose to a total of eleven, four of these were due to accidents at work, three being colliery accidents and one a dock accident. Another accident was due to drowning in a brick quarry of a boy of eleven years and six were due to accidents in the home. One home accident occurred in a female of 80 years, a fracture caused by a fall at home, another elderly female died of coal gas poisoning, two deaths were due to inhalation of vomit ; one a baby of twenty-one months, and one a woman of 64 years. Another death was of a child of two years by accidental poisoning with butazolidin and one man of 75 years died of asphyxia due to bruises on the neck.

Further and continued efforts are urgently required to reduce the number of accidents, particularly of those at home, and of the young and the aged. This year, five elderly people were killed, two by motor vehicles and three by accidents in the home, and two young children by accidents at home.

The number of deaths from suicide, after a notable decrease to one last year, increased to four. It was hoped that the number of suicides each year would diminish after six were registered in 1957 and five in 1953. Two deaths by suicide were due to carbon monoxide poisoning at home, one female death was due to barbituate poisoning and one to drowning in the River Tyne.

II.—TUBERCULOSIS.

No death from any form of tuberculosis was registered compared with four ; three male and one female ; in the previous year. In 1957 again no death was recorded. The death rate for respiratory tuberculosis for England and Wales was .07 per 1,000 population in 1959. It is very encouraging to note this gradual decrease in the mortality rate which is going steadily downwards in spite of occasional fluctuation.

A further welcome feature of the year was the considerable drop in incidence of the disease to eleven cases (nine pulmonary and two non-pulmonary) from 26 cases (23 pulmonary and three non-pulmonary) notified in 1958. The decrease occurred in both sexes. There were six fewer notifications of males and nine fewer of females. In the immediately preceding years, the average number of cases had been from twenty one to twenty three notified each year. This decrease in mortality and incidence is in keeping with the general trend throughout the country.

The value of the newer forms of drugs in treatment, the greater hope of recovery and quicker recovery, lessening the amount of infection being disseminated, together with intensive efforts at con-

tact control and case finding such as through regular visits of the Mass Radiography Units and B.C.G. vaccination seem to be having their reward.

Inward transfers of tuberculosis to the district numbered twelve, the transfers being mainly to the new houses built by the Newcastle upon Tyne Corporation in this district. Since 1953, a total of 129 cases of tuberculosis (122 pulmonary and seven non-pulmonary), have been inwardly transferred. In the same period, the number of primary notifications have been 137 pulmonary and 27 non-pulmonary, a total of 164 cases tuberculosis. As has been mentioned in previous reports, the number of inward transfers to the district accounts for about one third of the cases of tubercle on the register.

Under the points scheme, particular attention is given by the Council to the rehousing of cases of tuberculosis to more suitable housing conditions, four families being rehoused in 1959 and 77 during the past eight years. Modern methods of treatment, co-operation in case finding, contact surveillance and better living conditions are at last having very appreciable effects.

Mass Radiography :

The mobile unit from the General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne visited the district and public sessions were held at Lemington (Social Club) on October 8th and 9th, at Throckley (Co-operative Hall) on November 2nd and 3rd and at Westerhope (Co-operative Hall) on November 4th and 5th. The latter visit was a second one as on the first visit on May 29th and 30th the weather was extremely inclement. A report from the Secretary of the unit gave the total number of persons visiting as 1,141.

Early in 1960, it is proposed to hold a special survey by the unit in which every house in the village of Newburn would be canvassed by volunteers recruited from the various voluntary organisations. A card would be left and collected two or three days later for sorting by clerical staff. Facilities for the sorting would be provided by this Council and assistance given by the staff of the Health Department. Appointment cards for those wishing to be x-rayed would be delivered by the volunteers. Should the canvass method be successful, it could be repeated in other parts of the district.

III.—GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY.

A total of 753 cases of infectious disease were notified compared with 104 in 1958 and 687 in 1957. The increase in the number of notifications was due entirely to the large number of notifications of measles.

Measles :

Measles was extremely prevalent during the first half of the year. There were a few cases in January, and in February the number rose to 117, about half this number being notified in the West Denton district and the other half in Westerhope. In March the number of notifications dropped considerably, but in April rose sharply to a total of 156, many new cases occurring in Lemington and Throckley. The rise in incidence increased in May, when 156 new cases were notified, notifications dropped to 67 in June and after that there were few. A total of 627 cases of measles were notified compared with only seven in 1958 and 508 in 1957.

The pattern of biennial increase has been faithfully followed during the past few years and indeed, the rise in incidence was expected. The disease first became prevalent in West Denton and Westerhope, and in the months immediately following spread to the remaining parts of the districts giving two peaks, one in February and one in May.

Scarlet Fever :

There was little significant increase in the incidence of scarlet fever, a total of thirteen cases being notified, compared with nine in the previous year. The very mild type of case continued.

Whooping Cough :

A slight rise in incidence to 49 cases notified occurred compared with 32 in 1958, 44 in 1957 and 131 in 1956. Twenty-three of the cases occurred in children under five years of age, and twenty-six in those over five years, mainly in the five to nine age group. With slight fluctuations, the incidence of the disease appears to be decreasing as the number of children receiving protection each year against whooping cough increases.

Acute Poliomyelitis :

It is pleasing to report that no case of this disease was notified as in 1958. In 1957 there were three cases notified, one fatal. The vaccination campaign against poliomyelitis continued with vigour and enthusiasm during the year, including the extension to young adults up to 26 years of age.

Sonne Dysentery :

Twenty three cases were notified, compared with twenty eight in 1958 and 71, in 1957. The cases occurred sporadically throughout

the year, with a slight rise in March and May of six and seven respectively. In several instances there were two cases in one family. Routine investigation of home contacts was carried out in each case and several positive symptomless excretors were found, though there were a lesser number of these than usual. Both cases and positive contacts were kept under surveillance until clear and were given treatment by their family doctors. No action with regard to the exclusion of food handlers was necessary.

Food Poisoning :

No case of food poisoning has been notified during the last two years.

Two cases of salmonellosis occurred during the year. In May in a family of five there was one case and one positive contact. The organism isolated was *S. singapore*. There were no food handlers involved and no definite link with food could be found. The other case of which a report was received in October was of a nurse suffering from salmonellosis due to *S. derby*, residing in a hospital in a neighbouring district. The patient's home was in this district, specimens were taken from other members of the family but no positive contacts were found.

Pneumonia :

The number of cases of primary pneumonia notified was 28 compared with 24 the previous year. The cases mainly occurred in February and April and again in September and October. During the early months of the year, influenza of a mild type was prevalent.

Influenza :

Particularly in Lemington and Throckley, influenza was prevalent during the second week of February and onwards. This was especially noticeable in the drop in school attendance. Information received from the Ministry of National Insurance showed that claims for sickness benefit mainly through influenza, severe cold and bronchitis rose to 178 and 240 new claims were made in the second and third weeks respectively, compared to the average of 91 claims in the previous nine months. During the fourth week of February the number of new claims dropped slightly to 226 and in the next week to 195, with an increase in the number of final certificates. As mentioned above a number of cases of primary pneumonia were notified in February. The general practitioners of the district co-operated, as in previous years, by keeping watch for prevalence of the illness.

IV.—HOUSING.

Forty four families were rehoused from condemned property compared with thirty eight families the previous year. Forty two new houses were built by the Council and sixty privately. In 1958 thirty two houses were built by the Council and 135 privately. At the 31st December, 1959, there were 1,043 applicants for Council houses, 438 sub-tenants, 432 tenants and 173 aged persons. The Housing Welfare Officer has kindly supplied these figures.

V.—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47 :

Several cases were investigated by officials of the department under this section and in one case, formal action was necessary. An elderly man who was suffering from an ulcerated leg with maggot infestation in addition to a rapidly deteriorating general condition, was in need of care and attention and was removed to Hexham Hospital for a period of three weeks under a Magistrates Order under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act of 1951. His further history from the hospital was that the leg (the other leg had been amputated many years before) had completely healed after a period of several months stay after the cessation of the Order, and that an artificial leg had been fitted to the other leg so that he was able to walk.

Another difficult case occurred in June and July and many visits were paid to a middle aged man, living alone, suffering from a chronic nervous disease, living in gross insanitary conditions and refusing all forms of aid. In the end, formal action was not necessary under the above Act, as it was taken under another Act and the patient sent to a hospital for mental disorders.

Section 50 :

One burial took place under this section of the Act in respect of an elderly man who had previously been visited under Section 47. This man died shortly after returning from a Home into which he had gone voluntarily.

VI.—FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. AND HEALTH EDUCATION.

The food shops in the district, 116 in number, received 109 visits in the course of the year, whereas in the previous year 221 visits had been made. It was impossible to do more visiting owing to depletion of the staff and sickness and it is hoped that more

visiting will be done in the near future. The number of ice-cream premises registered increased from 61 to 66. Seven samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination and six were placed in grade one and one in grade four. A further sample of the latter ice-cream was placed in grade one.

Formal action was taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 Section 2 and resulted in a catering firm being fined £15 os. od. with £5 5s. od. costs. Details of this action are to be found in the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

A Clean Food Handling Campaign was held during one week in June during which posters and displays were exhibited in several parts of the district. Talks on health subjects including kitchen hygiene, food poisoning, accidents in the home and clean air were given to older school children and to various women's organisations in the district in the course of the year. A projector which was purchased at the end of the year particularly for clean air propaganda will prove very useful in helping with health education work generally.

VII.—ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Observations of the amount of pollution of the atmosphere in the district showed a welcome decrease in the average monthly reports in all the four sites where the deposit gauges operated throughout the year. At the Newburn sub-station there was a decrease of approximately three tons per square mile, at Walbottle a decrease of three tons per square mile, at Lemington Hospital of seven tons per square mile, and at Lemington Cemetery approximately one ton per square mile in the average monthly deposit.

This is the most appreciable decrease there has been since 1955, when readings commenced. The most noticeable decrease was at the Newburn sub-station which has decreased by ten tons per square mile since 1955, as is shown in the following table. This information, as in previous years, has been kindly supplied by the Central Electricity Authority.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION — AVERAGE MONTHLY DEPOSITS
Tons per square mile.

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Newburn Sub Station ..	28.0	30.35	21.96	21.82	18.05
St. Cuthbert's School, Walbottle ..	12.2	11.8	14.46	14.52	11.79
Lemington Hospital ..	10.6	12.66	13.31	18.8	11.94
Lemington Cemetery ..	13.25	15.12	12.63	14.37	13.59

Progress was made towards the establishment of the first Smoke Control Area in that talks were held with representatives of the National Union of Mineworkers regarding the difficulties of concessionary coal and possible unemployment of the miners. The position by the end of the year was that the Council were trying to definitely establish the latter point, whether or not the operation of a Smoke Control Area would cause unemployment.

VIII.—WELFARE OF THE AGED.

The Newburn Urban District Central Committee for the welfare of the aged which was formed in 1951 continued their expanded services. Chiropody sessions were held at Throckley and Westerhope Clinics and at the West Denton Association Hall. In total, 59 sessions were held during the year, 531 patients being treated. A table is appended showing the rapid growth of this service since it was formed in 1956. Each district has its own chiropody representative and aged persons requiring treatment inform the representative residing in their own district.

Year	No. of sessions	No. of patients
December 1956-57	21	189
December 1957-58	54	486
December 1958-59	59	531

The trolley shop service for patients of the Lemington Hospital continued to be very useful.

There are eight over 60's clubs in the district and each club has a representative on the Central Committee. From the reports received on the clubs activities during the year they were functioning actively. The particulars have been kindly supplied by Mrs. M. Henson, Honorary Secretary of the Old People's Welfare Committee. A close liaison exists between the various services of both the County and District Councils and the voluntary organisations endeavouring to cater for the various needs of the old people of the district.

IX.—MORTUARY.

A new mortuary consisting of a waiting and viewing room, a post mortem room and a changing room for the pathologist was completed in April and was brought into use immediately.

Suitable facilities are available for post mortem examinations and the arrangements for relatives attending for the purpose of viewing bodies are excellent.

.. This mortuary is a very great improvement on the one previously used.

X.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

The details under this section have been compiled by Mr. J. Corney, Senior Public Health Inspector.

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

(a) Regional Hospital Board.

The Regional Hospital Board has one hospital at Lemington which admits chronic female patients from the Newcastle General Hospital.

Patients from this district are admitted to the Newcastle and Hexham groups of hospitals and cases of infectious disease to the Walker Gate Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne.

(b) Tuberculosis Service.

Patients attend the Chest Clinic, Elswick Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, under the care of the Senior Chest Physician, Dr. G. Hurrell. Admission to hospital or sanatorium is usually immediate.

B.C.G. vaccination is given to children at risk, either at clinics or at school with the parents consent and home visiting is done by health visitors of the county service. Close co-operation is maintained by all these services with this department.

(c) Local Authority Services.

Sections (3) and (5) and the care of the buildings under section (2) are administered by the South Area Health Sub-Committee of the Northumberland County Council.

(1) Domiciliary Nursing and Midwifery.

Six nurse-midwives are resident in various parts of the district as follows :—

Miss E. Collinson,
26, Northcote Avenue,
West Denton,
Telephone No. 674742.

Mrs. Craven,
216, Newburn Road,
Throckley,
Telephone No. 674697.

Mrs. Dixon,
20, Hillhead Drive,
West Denton,
Telephone No. 675568.

Miss C. Turnbull,
31, Aquilla Drive,
Heddon,
Telephone No. Wylam 2213.

Mrs. M. Teasdale,
15, Orchard Terrace,
Lemington,
Telephone No. 674764.

Miss M. K. Darran,
2, Beaumont Terrace,
Westerhope.
Telephone No. 869283.

(2) **Maternity and Child Welfare Service.**

There are four maternity and child welfare centres situated in the Urban District.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, Mayfield Avenue, Throckley.

The West Denton Association Hall, Middle Gate, West Denton.

The Methodist School Hall, Algernon Road, Lemington.

'Lindisfarne,' Stamfordham Road, Westerhope.

There are regular session for babies, children and expectant mothers for dental treatment and special session for orthopaedic treatment, eye and immunisation sessions and speech therapy.

(3) **Immunisation and Vaccination.**

Diphtheria immunisation.

As usual, immunisation against diphtheria was carried on throughout the year at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, at the schools and by the General Practitioners. A total of 526 primary courses consisting of 501 children, aged 0 to 4 years and 25 aged 5 to 14 years, were completed during the year, compared with 392 primary courses in 1958.

At 31st December 1959, a total of 90% (89%) of the child population of the district had been immunised at some time in their lives, including 73% (70%) children 0 to 4 years and 98% (98%) children 5 to 14 years. The Immunity Index, i.e. immunisation during the last five years, was 31% (24%) children under one year. 83% (84%) children 1 to 4 years and 55% (60%) children 5 to 14 years, giving a total Immunity Index of 61% (63%). It is encouraging to note that the number of young children who were immunised against diphtheria during the year increased but there was a slight decrease in the number of older children. The importance of this immunisation must not be lost sight of in the multiplicity of other injections, and indeed the parents of young children are generally assiduous in seeking advice on the spacing of injections and in carrying out the advice given.

Whooping Cough Prophylaxis.

A total of 498 (386) children received prophylactic injections against whooping cough, 267 of these being given in the form of the triple antigen of diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

The number of children receiving the triple antigen has rapidly increased during the last few years. Protection against whooping

cough in the combined and triple form is being increasingly sought and results seem to be amply justified, though there are, as in 1959, occasional slight remissions in the incidence of the disease.

Tetanus.

267 (203) children received protection against tetanus compared with 203 in 1958, 38 in 1957 and 43 in 1956.

Smallpox.

The number of vaccinations against smallpox increased to 310 primary vaccinations and 35 re-vaccinations, compared with 174 and 175 primary vaccinations in the previous two years. It is encouraging that the number of vaccinations of smallpox have at last shown a considerable increase and are probably the result of the constant efforts to persuade parents to have their children vaccinated in infancy.

Poliomyelitis.

This has been previously mentioned as proceeding with vigour throughout the year. The age group had been extended to include young persons up to 26 years of age. By the end of the year, in the whole of the South Area, 20,000 children aged from six months to fifteen years, 1,046 expectant mothers, 309 other classes, including hospital staffs and 2,948 young persons from fifteen to twenty five years had received two injections. In addition 15,226 third injections had been given.

(4) Ambulance Service.

The service, which is radio controlled, continued to operate from the depot at Westway, Throckley. After 4-0 p.m. until 8-0 a.m. on weekdays and from Saturday noon to 8-0 a.m. on Mondays, all calls are received at the Wideopen Depot and relayed to the Throckley station and vehicles.

In 1959, ambulances of this station made 3,858 (3,592) journeys carrying 12,657 (12,783) patients, including 799 (810) accidents and emergency cases and 1,889 (1,928) stretcher cases and did a total mileage of 109,850 (102,656) miles. This showed a slight increase in journeys and mileage. Journeys made by patients living in neighbouring districts are included in these figures. A three bay extension of the Throckley depot was commenced in 1959.

(5) Home Help Service.

The services of a home help were received by 264 (269) patients resident in the Urban District for various periods in the course of

the year. The cases included 225 (219) aged and infirm, 22 (24) confinements, 2 (13) acute illness, 9 (7) blind persons and 6 (1) cases of tuberculosis. There was a decrease in the number of cases of acute illness, and a slight increase in the number of aged and infirm persons and in the number of cases of tuberculosis served.

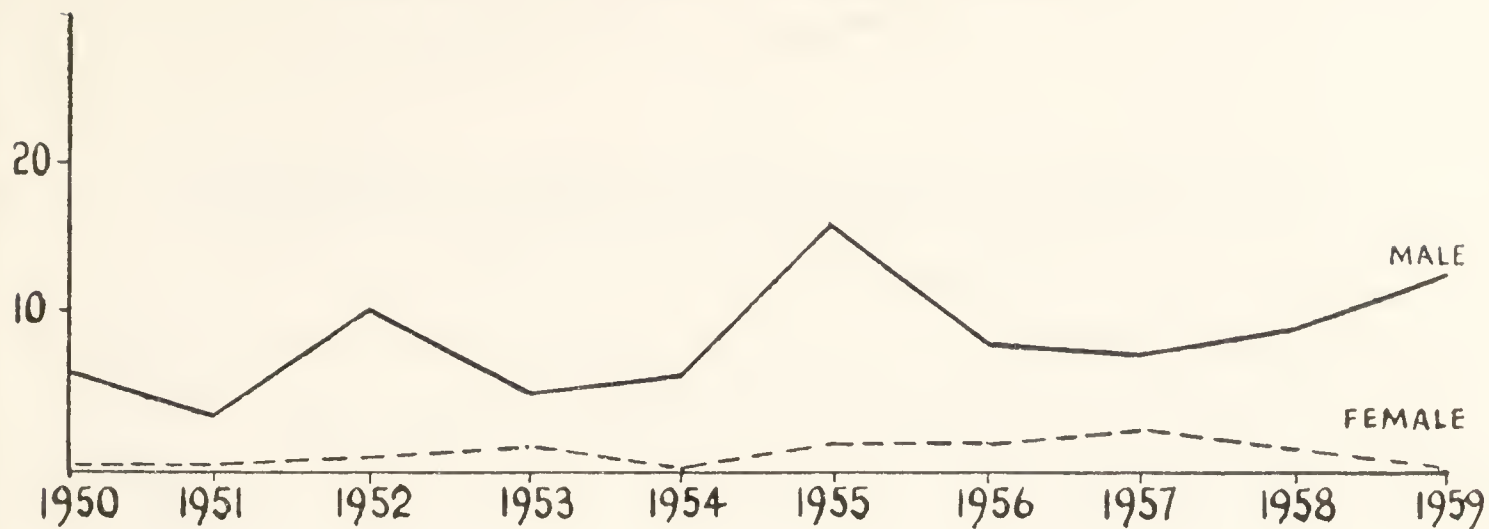
(6) Care and After Care.

The Newburn and Prudhoe After Care Sub-Committee held bi-monthly meetings as in previous years. Assistance was given to patients suffering from tuberculosis and other chest and cardiac diseases, mainly in the form of milk to patients and travelling expenses of relatives to hospitals and aid in convalescence and rehabilitation.

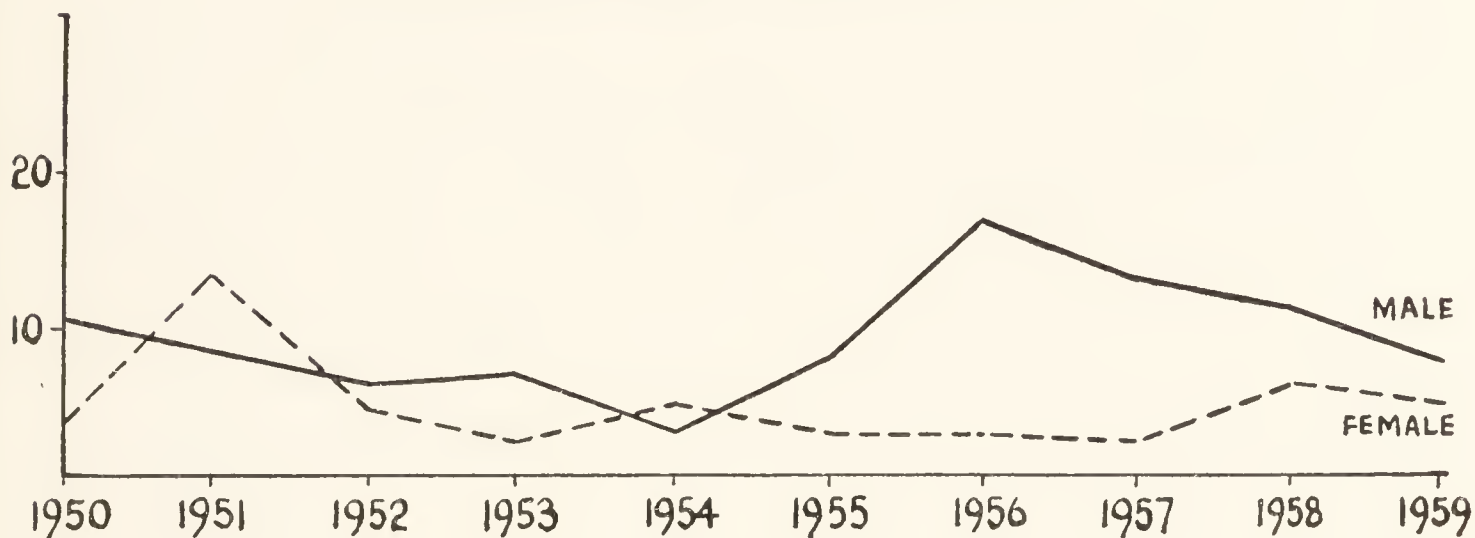
(7) Nursing Care Committee.

The Nursing Care Committees in the area, Throckley and Heddon, Westerhope and Lemington continued their valuable voluntary work. The Throckley and Heddon Committee had 136 articles of nursing equipment on loan during the year. More specialised articles of equipment, such as those required for paraplegic cases, are provided by the South Area Health Sub-Committee.

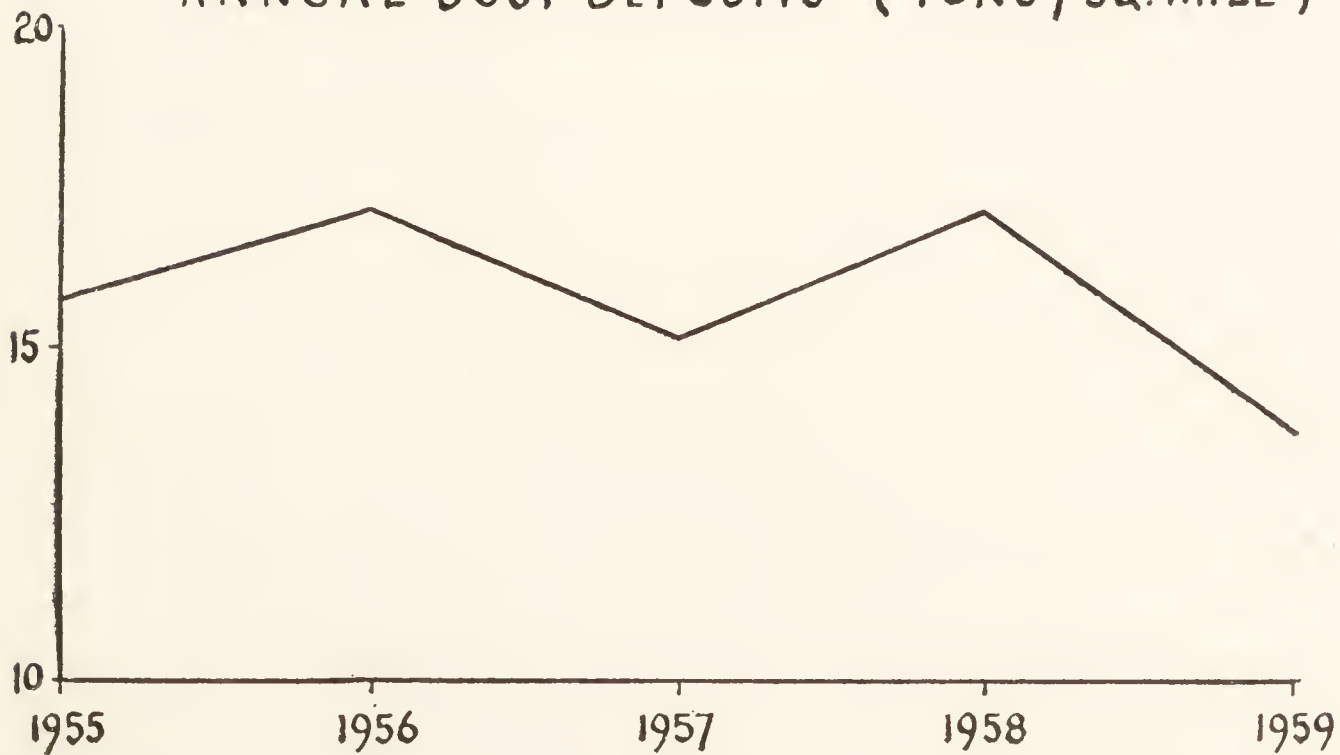
DEATHS FROM LUNG CANCER



DEATHS FROM BRONCHITIS



ANNUAL DUST DEPOSITS (TONS / SQ. MILE)



STATISTICAL SUMMARY AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

PARTICULARS OF DISTRICT :

Area (in Acres)		4,648
Registrar General's estimated population		27,330
Number of inhabited houses according to rate book		8,335
Sum represented by Penny Rate		£1,400
Rateable Value		£347,440

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STASTICS :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births (Legitimate)	 276	219	495
Live Births (Illegitimate)	 4	3	7
Still Births	 8	8	16
Deaths	 175	145	320
Birth Rate per 1,000 population		..	16.7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births		..	30.9
Death rate per 1,000 population		..	15.5
Death Rate of infants under one year :			
All infants per 1,000 live births.		..	41.8

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE NEWBURN AREA, 1959.

(REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN)

Figures in parenthesis indicate deaths in the Lemington Hospital.

ALL CAUSES.	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis respiratory	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis others	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and Parasitic disease ..	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	9	2	11
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung and Bronchus..	11	—	11
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	7 (1)	7
13. Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	13 (1)	28
14. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2	2
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	2	2
16. Diabetes	—	4 (1)	4
17. Vascular-lesions of nervous system ..	29	32 (12)	61
18. Coronary disease, angina	40	21 (3)	61
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	5	9
20. Other heart disease	15	17 (1)	32
21. Other circulatory disease	5	5	10
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	5	6 (6)	11
24. Bronchitis	7	4	11
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	4	—	4
26. Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum ..	—	—	—
27. Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	2	2
28. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	—	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostrate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	3	5	8
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	14	12	26
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
34. All other accidents	7	4	11
35. Suicide	2	2	4
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—

**BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION AND
INFANT MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS**

YEAR	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY	
	<i>Newburn</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>	<i>Newburn</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>	<i>Newburn</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
1944	21.29	18.1	10.46	11.6	56.51	46.0
1945	19.69	16.5	12.83	11.4	48.52	46.0
1946	21.14	19.6	11.43	11.5	53.63	43.0
1947	23.27	21.0	10.9	12.0	43.48	41.0
1948	19.62	18.3	11.2	10.8	28.64	34.0
1949	18.11	16.7	11.32	11.7	30.8	32.0
1950	17.9	15.8	12.9	11.6	48.7	29.8
1951	17.2	15.5	10.05	12.5	34.5	29.6
1952	15.7	15.3	10.03	11.3	29.1	27.6
1953	15.9	15.5	11.01	11.4	43.2	26.8
1954	16.4	15.2	13.3	11.3	46.8	25.5
1955	16.7	15.0	13.2	11.7	25.5	24.9
1956	17.1	15.7	10.9	11.7	39.7	23.8
1957	16.9	16.1	13.5	11.5	23.5	23.0
1958	16.7	16.4	13.4	11.7	36.3	22.5
1959	16.7	16.5	15.5	11.6	41.8	22.0

Number of infant deaths in 1959 - 21

Causes of Death :

Prematurity	..	..	..	..	5
Congenital defects	..	..	..	..	2
Asphyxia due to inhalation of gastric contents	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebral haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebral Anoxia	..	..	..	..	2
Pulmonary Haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	1
Gastro Enteritis	..	..	..	..	1
Hydrocephalus	..	..	..	..	1
Ancenephaly	..	..	..	..	1
Fibra Elastosis	..	..	..	..	1
Meningomyelocele	..	..	..	..	1
Post Maturity	..	..	..	..	1
Found dead in left luggage office	..	..	..	..	1
Pyæmia	..	..	..	..	1

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES — YEAR, 1959
NUMBER OF CASES

DISEASE	0—		1—		2—		3—		4—		5—9		10—14		15—24		25 & over		Age unknown		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	7	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	5
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	3	2	2	3	3	1	4	5	8	14	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	20	29
Measles ..	11	12	42	33	44	43	45	54	38	52	138	113	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	320	307
Dysentery ..	1	1	2	1	1	1	—	2	1	—	4	3	—	—	1	3	2	1	—	—	12	11

DISEASE	Under 5		5—14		15—44		45—64		65 & over		Age unknown		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pneumonia ..	2	3	5	5	2	2	4	2	2	1	—	—	15	13
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

Appended is a summary of Bacteriological Reports received from the Public Health Laboratory Service, Newcastle General Hospital on specimens submitted by Local Medical Practitioners and by the Public Health Department.

	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>
Faeces specimens Salmonella ..	8	14
Faeces specimens Sonne Dysentery	124	170
Throat Swab for Vincent's Angina	—	3
Throat Swab Haemolytic Streptococci	2	—
Throat Swab for Diphtheria ..	—	1

FOOD POISONING RETURN - 1959

(a) FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected) AS RETURNED TO REGISTRAR GENERAL.	— Nil.
(b) CASES OTHERWISE ASCERTAINED	— Nil.
(c) FATAL CASES	— Nil.
PARTICULARS OF OUTBREAKS	— Nil.
SINGLE CASES	— Nil.

SALMONELLA INFECTIONS, NOT FOOD-BORNE ;

Salmonella (Type)	Outbreaks		No. of cases	Single cases	Total No. of cases (outbreaks) and single cases).
	Family	Other	(outbreaks)		
Singapore ..	—	—	—	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER, 1959

Quarter Ended	Number of cases on register at commencement of Quarter		Number of cases notified for the first time.		Inward Transfers		Number of cases removed from register in a preceding quarter which have been restored to the register during the quarter.		Number of cases re-moved from Register		Number of cases remaining on register at end of quarter.	
	Pul.	N.-Pul.	Pul.	N.-Pul.	Pul.	N.-Pul.	Pul.	N.-Pul.	Pul.	N.-Pul.	Pul.	N.-Pul.
March 31st, 1959												
Males ..	153	12	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	152	12
Females ..	155	22	—	1	2	—	—	—	7	—	150	23
June 30th, 1959												
Males ..	152	12	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	152	12
Females ..	150	23	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	148	23
Sept. 30th, 1959												
Males ..	152	12	—	—	2	—	—	—	6	—	148	12
Females ..	148	23	3	1	2	1	—	—	6	—	147	25
Dec. 31st, 1959												
Males ..	148	12	1	—	1	1	—	—	6	—	144	13
Females ..	147	25	3	—	2	—	—	—	3	1	149	24

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES NOTIFIED.			INWARD TRANSFERS			DEATHS		
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary
	M.	F.	M. F.	M.	F.	M. F.	M.	F.	M. F.
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	—	—	—	—	—	I	—	—	—
15—24 years	—	4	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
25—44 years	I	2	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
45—64 years	I	—	I	—	I	—	—	—	—
65 years and over	I	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3	6	I I	3	7	I	—	—	—
	9		2	10		2	—		—
	11			12			—		—

TABLE OF DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Year	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
1943	14	3	17
1944	12	1	13
1945	7	4	11
1946	12	4	16
1947	15	2	17
1948	12	2	14
1949	9	1	10
1950	9	1	10
1951	5	1	6
1952	6	2	8
1953	1	—	1
1954	4	—	4
1955	4	—	4
1956	3	—	3
1957	—	—	—
1958	4	—	4
1959	—	—	—

TABLE OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

Year	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1943	22	13	5	5	45
1944	8	11	4	2	25
1945	12	7	2	3	24
1946	16	12	7	2	37
1947	18	12	8	3	41
1948	15	13	1	4	33
1949	17	13	7	3	40
1950	21	16	1	3	41
1951	21	14	3	7	45
1952	22	16	2	1	41
1953	15	9	3	3	30
1954	11	9	1	2	23
1955	15	9	1	3	28
1956	7	9	2	5	23
1957	14	7	1	1	23
1958	9	14	1	2	26
1959	3	6	1	1	11

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR for the Year 1959.

To th Chairman and Members of the Council :

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1959.

The operation of the Clean Air Act 1956 was forwarded during the year, but not to such an extent as we would have wished as regards the promotion of Smoke Control Areas.

The collation of information obtained from the operation of the daily smoke filter and sulphur dioxide apparatus at Newburn and Westerhope and from the deposit gauges operated by the Central Electricity Authority in the district continued. It was interesting to note that the levels of pollution from both smoke and sulphur dioxide showed a decrease on the previous year, the average monthly deposit for the four gauges being 13.84 tons per square mile compared with 17.18 tons in 1958 and the readings from the apparatus at the Council offices were 20 milligrams per 100 cubic metres for smoke, and 3.8 parts per 100 million sulphur dioxide, compared with 21.1 and 4.5 respectively for 1958. The apparatus at Westerhope recorded an average monthly reading of 18 milligrams per 100 cubic metres for smoke and 3.8 parts per 100 million sulphur dioxide. The purchase of a reflectometer enabled us to undertake our own filter pad readings instead of having to send them to the Public Analyst after the Public Health Engineering Department at King's College, Newcastle had advised us that they could not continue taking readings for us.

Informal action under the Act was taken in respect of contraventions caused by excessive emissions of smoke from two boilers, from emissions of fumes from a colliery spoil heap and for nuisance caused by volumes of smoke due to the burning of disused rubber tyres.

A Smoke Control Area Programme covering five years was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government and decision in principle of the first Smoke Control Area to be designated Newburn No. 1 (Throckley) Smoke Control Area covering 128 acres with some 281 Council houses, one public house with

residence and an estate being developed to include some 160 houses was approved by the Minister.

The Council co-operated in the Northumberland and Durham Clean Air Campaign and were represented at meetings called to promote the holding of exhibitions throughout the area. It was as a result of this preparatory work that a static exhibition was held in the Throckley Co-operative Society's Hall, Throckley during the week commencing 28th March, 1960. A feature of this exhibition was a display of posters submitted by pupils attending ten of the schools in the district. A first prize of a 15/od. Savings Certificate and a second prize of 5/od. Savings Stamps were awarded to the pupils submitting the two best posters from each school. I would like to mention the ready co-operation of the school teachers in this connection and the enthusiasm of the pupils in producing some most striking posters.

A projector was purchased for use in connection with Public Health Education and the first two film strips dealt with the Clean Air Act from the industrial and domestic angles.

Food handling premises continued to be inspected and an increasing number of mobile food shops were also inspected. The control of these latter shops under the Food Hygiene Regulations presents some difficulties, the interpretation of the term "immediate consumption" being open to doubt and the provision of a constant hot water supply being practically unenforceable.

A catering firm having retail shops in the district was fined £15 os. od., with £5 5s. od. costs for selling a fruit tart containing a hexagonal steel nut embedded in the pastry. This was the only formal action taken under the Food and Drugs Act during the year.

Support was given to a Clean Food Handling Exhibition and posters were displayed in food shops in four parts of the district during one week in June.

Seven samples of Ice-cream were taken and submitted for examination being classified in the provisional grades as follows, grade 1 - six, grade 4 - one.

There was again a substantial increase in the number of carcasses of sheep examined, the number of pigs remaining almost constant, while that of cattle was reduced by 106, compared with the previous year. Three bovine carcasses were condemned due to generalised tuberculosis and one sheep carcass due to oedema and emaciation. Sunday slaughtering continued at one of the slaughterhouses, 1,827 carcasses being inspected out of a total of 3,174.

There was a slight reduction in the number of houses made fit and as in the previous year, formal action had to be taken under Sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act in order to effect repairs where the owner was unable to do so. There was a marked increase in the number of houses closed and demolished, and 44 families were rehoused from condemned property. There were only three applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act, compared with eighteen in the previous year.

The Refuse Collection and Salvage Service continued to operate satisfactorily during the year, the purchase of a Fordson Major Tractor with Dozaloda Equipment being a most valuable acquisition and resulting in more efficient controlled tipping with reduced costs. There was a reduction of some £130 in the nett cost of collection and disposal per 1,000 population, and some £400 reduction in the nett cost per 1,000 premises on the previous year. This was largely due to the use of the Tractor already mentioned and to the fact that in the previous year a new Freighter costing £2330 was purchased. Income from salvage remained almost exactly the same, the tonnage of waste paper collected being 228 as compared with 222 tons the previous year. The tenancy of a tip at the Miners Welfare Ground, Westerhope was terminated ; the tip being handed over in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and to the satisfaction of the Miners Welfare Committee. Land reclaimed was brought into use as a recreation ground.

Planning permission was obtained for the use of an area of land subject to flooding at Grange Farm, Newburn for tipping purposes. It was not found necessary to use this land during the year, Blucher Quarry continuing to take all the refuse collected in the district.

The total number of inspections carried out during the year was less than in 1958 due to there being no Additional Inspector until Mr. Rand was appointed in July.

During the two months I was absent through illness, Mr. Rand had to assume extra responsibilities and as he had just come to the authority his task was more onerous than it might other-wise have been. He performed his duties in a satisfactory manner and the Council's action in making him an honorarium was much appreciated.

Miss Greenwood left at the end of the year to take up an appointment outside local government.

Mr. Graham made good progress in his studies and was most useful in the department.

Mr. Gray, foreman of the refuse collection and salvage service carried out his duties conscientiously and I would here pay tribute to the refuse collectors who week in, week out remove the contents of bins from nearly 9,000 premises.

In conclusion I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and support, and to the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Hopper, and to the other officials of the Council for their ready co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. CORNEY,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF DISTRICT.

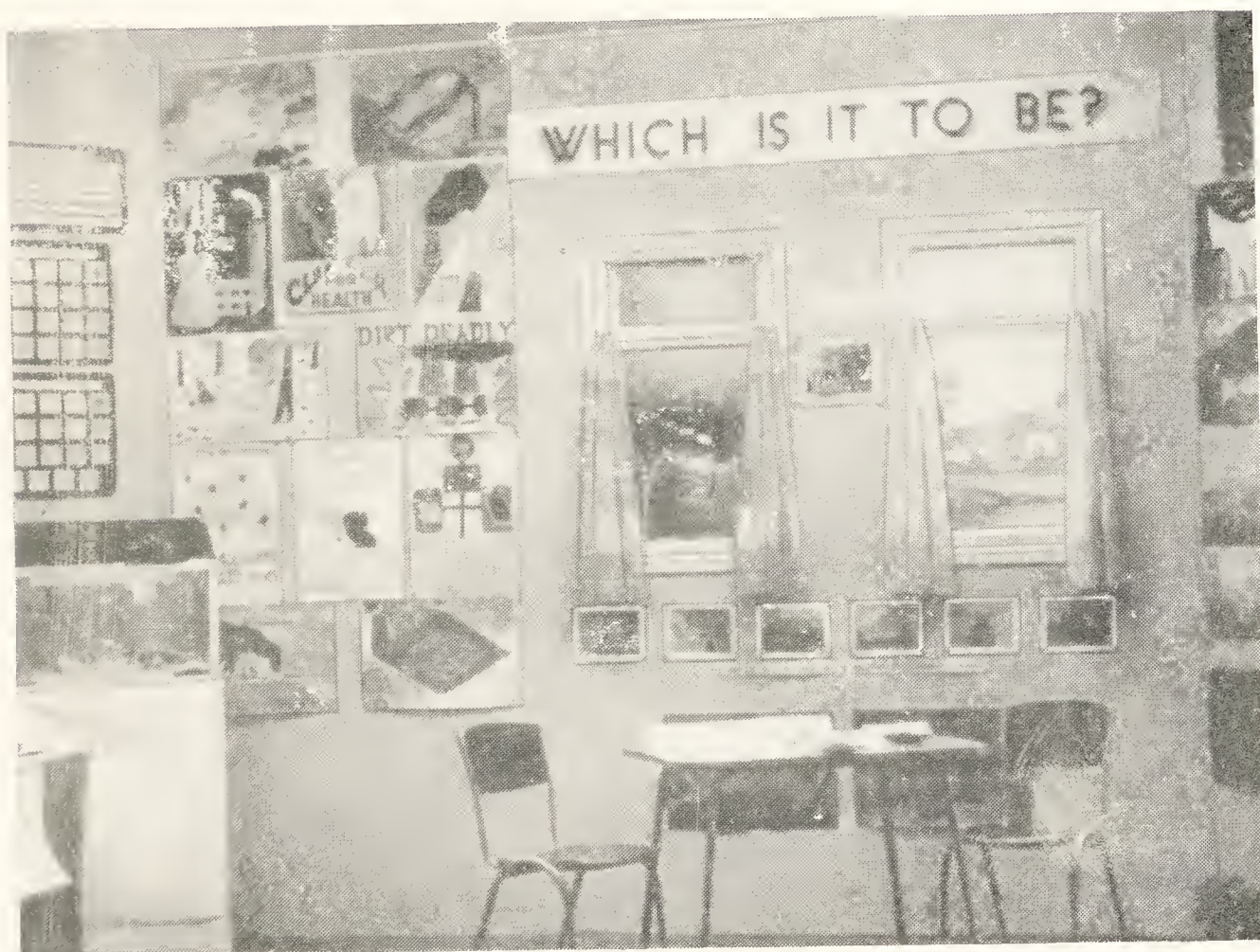
NATURE OF INSPECTION.	<i>Visits</i>
Clean Air Act	334
Disinfection	15
Disinfestation	77
Factories Act	65
Food and Drugs	109
Housing	824
Infectious Disease	227
Ice Cream Samples	10
Keeping of Animals	3
Meat Inspection	166
Moveable Dwellings	28
National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47	14
Section 50	5
Nuisances	35
Public Health Propaganda	2
Refuse Collection	284
Rodent Control	132
Miscellaneous	115
Sanitary Accommodation	4
Total Visits for 1959	2449,

DEFECTS REMEDIED :

Brickwork repointed or rebuilt	29
Burst Pipes Repaired	12
Choked drains cleared	9
Concrete steps repaired	7
Dampness remedied	10
Doors repaired or renewed	47
Dustbins provided	34
Eaves gutters repaired	11
Fireplaces repaired	6
Flooring repaired	19
Handrail secured	9
Plasterwork repaired	46
Rain water pipes repaired	9
Roofs repaired	34
Sink benches renewed	2
Smoke nuisances remedied	5
Stairs repaired	5
Waste pipes repaired	10
W.C. apparatus overhauled	37
Windows overhauled	43
Window cords renewed	22
Woodwork repaired or renewed	13
Yard surfaces repaired	10

Clean Air Exhibition, Throckley Co-operative Hall, Throckley

29th March to 1st April, 1960.



HOUSING STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1959

<i>Houses completed during the year.</i>	<i>With state assistance.</i>	<i>Unaided</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) By Local Authority	42	—	42
(b) By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
(c) By Private Persons.. ..	—	60	60

Total number of Inhabited houses in District .. 8,659
 Total number of houses owned by Local Authority .. 2,750

CLOSING AND DEMOLITION :

(a) Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	—
(b) Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas ..	62
(c) Houses closed not demolished	44
(d) Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in above	—

REPAIRS :

Houses made fit by proceedings either Housing or Public Health Acts.

(a) By informal action	83
(b) By owners, following statutory action	16
(c) By local authority in default of owners	1
(d) Demolition Order revoked after reconstruction ..	—
(e) Houses in clearance areas patched for temporary accommodation	—

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS : HOUSING ACT, 1949 *Number of Separate Houses.*

(a) Applications submitted to local authority during year	9
(b) Application rejected	—
(c) Applications approved	9
(d) Approximate average grant approved per house..	£106
(e) Total number of houses approved for grant in area since inception of scheme	191

Number of outstanding applications for Council Houses on Authority's list at end of year 1,043

CLEARANCE AREA PROGRAMME—1956.

YEAR 1959

<i>First Five years.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of Houses to be demolished.</i>		<i>Remarks.</i>
1st Year	Bank Top, Throckley (already re-housed)	..	29	Confirmed Clearance Area 1939.
	Fireman's Row, Newburn (already re-housed)	..	12	Confirmed Clearance Area 1939.
	Chapel Row, N. Walbottle (already re-housed)		11	
	Laurel Street, Throckley (already re-housed)	..	20	
2nd Year	Maple Street, Throckley (already re-housed)	..	26	
	Sycamore Street, Throckley (already re-housed)		26	
	Beech Street, Throckley	..	19	Part re-housed.
3rd Year	Ash Street East, Throckley (already re-housed)	..	5	
	Elm Street, Throckley	..	26	
	Ash Street, Throckley	..	15	
	Coronation Row, N. Walbottle		10	
4th Year	The Green, Low Square, School Bank, Queen's Rd., Walbottle	..	21	
	Northumberland Terrace, Newburn	..	11	
	Pit Bank and Paper Mill Scotswood	..	12	10 re-housed
5th Year	Albert Terrace, Newburn	..	19	
	Victoria Terrace, Newburn	..	17	
	Pit Cottages, Throckley	..	26	
<i>Second Five Years.</i>				
6th Year	Mount Pleasant, Throckley		68	
7th Year	Union Street, Lemington	..	43	
8th Year	Stanley Street, Lemington	..	41	
	Lloyd Street, Lemington	..	24	
9th Year	Dene Terrace, Walbottle	..	31	
	North View, N. Walbottle	..	18	

Note : Individual unfit houses closed or demolished .. 8.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

Part I of the Act.

I.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	23	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	40	48	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	4	—	—	—
TOTAL	52	71	2	—

II.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	4	—	4	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUTWORK
(Sections 110 and 111)

Naure of Work.	No. of workers in August list required by Section 110 (I) (c)
Wearing apparel (making etc.)	Nil.
Carding, etc. of buttons, etc.	Nil.
Paper bags	Nil.
TOTAL	Nil.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following return was forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries relating to action taken during the year ended 31st March, 1959. This form will be forwarded each Calendar Year.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY.				
	Non-Agricultural				Totals.
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses including Council houses	All other including Business premises	Agri-cultural	
1. Number of Properties in Local Authorities District ..	17	8650	600	9267	26
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of :—					39
(a) Notification	1	47	5	53	5
(b) Survey under the Act	6	8	6	20	1
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose	10	222	56	290	—
3. Number of properties inspected in Section 2 which were found to be infested by :—					
(a) Rates Major	1	8	4	13	—
Minor	7	44	3	54	1
(b) Mice Major	—	1	—	1	—
Minor	—	6	—	6	—
4. Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority..	8	59	7	74	1
5. Number of notices served under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
6. Number of 'Block' control schemes carried out	—	2	—	2	—

FOOD INSPECTIONS

<i>Unsound food :</i>				<i>Surrendered</i>
Tins of meat products	..	..	..	138 lb. 13 oz.
Tins of peas, beans, fruit etc.	..	..	..	340 tins

MILK REGULATIONS, 1949.53

Number of Registered Dairies	..	..	..	6
Number of Registered Distributors	..	..	..	44

ICE-CREAM PREMISES

Number on Register at commencement of year	..	61
Number on Register at end of year	..	66

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Number of Registered Slaughterhouses	..	..	3
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FOOD PREMISES

Number of shops where food is handled	..	..	117
Number of premises registered under section 16,			
Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :	..	..	..
Butcher	..	..	..
Fried Fish	..	..	..
Ice-Cream	..	..	..
Mussels	..	..	..
			95

WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company and continues to be satisfactory as regards quality and quantity.

MEAT INSPECTION

Number of carcasses inspected :

<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
315	2,775	84
Whole carcasses condemned	..	4 Beasts.

Small quantities of condemned meat are disposed of on the Council's refuse tip under the supervision of the foreman. Larger quantities after staining are removed by a firm of chemical manufacturers for treatment.

PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTING RETURN 1959-60

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Collection</i>	<i>Disposal</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Gross Expenditure</i>	£	£	£
Labour	9,291	762	10,053
Transport	4,048	1,349	5,397
Plant, equipment, land and buildings	—	1,246	1,246
Total gross expenditure ..	13,339	3,357	16,696
Gross Income	19	2,173	2,192
Net Cost	13,320	1,184	14,504
Capital expenditure met from revenue		1,044	

<i>Unit Costs :</i>	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Gross cost per ton, labour only .	18	2	1	5	19	7
Gross cost per ton, transport only	7	10	2	8	10	6
Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	26	0	2	5	28	5
	£		£		£	
Net cost per 1,000 population ..	487		43		530	
Net cost per 1,000 premises ..	1,537		136		1,673	

